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May 7th.

DR. MORTON, President, in the Chair.

An extract of a letter from J. Sharpe Macleay, Esq., dated Elizabeth Bay, near Sydney, 12th October, 1849, addressed to Dr. Morton, stating that he had transmitted to the latter "the cast of a fossil fish, illustrating the highest animal form yet discovered in the vast coal measures of the Eastern Coast of New Holland. The head was wanting, but from analogy it most nearly resembles the modern *Lepidosteus*. The specimen was found at Newcastle, a port about sixty miles north of Sydney, and noted for its coal mines.

Two other specimens of Sauroids of a distinct genus have been found at Paramatta, an inland town about fourteen miles from Sydney.

These are all the remains of Vertebrata yet found in strata of an earlier date than the Tertiary period."

Mr. Macleay also proposed to exchange Silurian or carbonaceous fossils, or plants and seeds of the colony, for those of this country, and enclosed a list of the latter which would be desirable. The list was referred to the Botanical Committee with power to act.

Dr. Morton also presented a communication addressed to him by P. A. Browne, Esq., dated Philadelphia, April 26, 1850, stating that he had been recently engaged in making an examination of the hair and portions of the scalp of some human heads, from Pachamahac and from Arica and Pisco, in Peru, and on comparing them with those of our modern Indians, he was prepared to demonstrate that they all belong to the same species, that viz. with cylindrical straight lank hair, which issues out of the epidermis at an acute angle, but the coloring matter is in the cortex, or in the cortex and intermediate fibres.

May 21st.

DR. BRIDGES in the Chair.

A letter was read from Joel Y. Schelly, Esq., dated Hereford, Berks County, Pennsylvania, April 7, 1850, addressed to Dr. Leidy, announcing that he had transmitted to the Academy all the fossil remains in his possession, found in Upper Milford, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, in 1848. Some other specimens in the hands of other individuals, he would also endeavor to obtain for the Society.

On motion of Dr. Leidy the thanks of the Academy were presented to Mr. Schelly for the collection; which Dr. Leidy stated had been received, and was now in the possession of the Society.